

Supplementary File 4: All continuous time events and their corresponding propensities for event attempts at time  $t$ , denoted  $\alpha_i(t)$  for event  $i$  in minutes.

$i$	Event	Event description	$\alpha_i(t)$	Assumption based on an average WT fish
1	Movement of $M$ .	A cell of type $M$ is chosen to attempt movement.	$\frac{0.11N^T_M(t)}{0.04 \times 60 \times 24 \times 7}$	$M$ move at a rate of 0.11mm per week [1].
2	Movement of $X^b$ .	A cell of type $X^b$ is chosen to attempt movement.	$\frac{0.033N^T_{X^b}(t)}{0.02 \times 60 \times 24 \times 7}$	$X^b$ move at a rate of 0.033mm per week [2].
3	Movement of $X$ .	A cell of type $X$ is chosen to attempt movement.	$\frac{0.033N^T_X(t)}{0.02 \times 60 \times 24 \times 7}$	$X$ move at a rate of 0.033mm per week [2].
4	Movement of $I^d$ .	A cell of type $I^d$ is chosen to attempt movement.	$\frac{0.03N^T_{I^d}(t)}{0.02 \times 60 \times 24}$	$I^d$ migrate extensively [3]. We propose that they move at a rate of 0.03mm per day.
5	Movement of $I^l$ .	A cell of type $I^l$ is chosen to attempt movement.	$\frac{0.03N^T_{I^l}(t)}{0.02 \times 60 \times 24}$	$I^l$ migrate extensively [3]. We propose that they move at a rate of 0.03mm per day.
6	Proliferation of $X$ or $X^b$ .	A cell of type $X$ or $X^b$ is chosen to attempt proliferation.	$\frac{N^T_X(t) + N^T_{X^b}(t)}{60 \times 24 \times 7}$	Cells of the xanthophore lineage proliferate continuously from the onset of melanophores with a doubling rate of once per week [4].
7	Proliferation of $I^d$ or $I^l$ .	A cell of type $I^d$ or $I^l$ is chosen to attempt proliferation.	$\frac{1.2N^T_{I^d}(t)}{1.2N^T_{I^l}(t)}$	S-iridophores have a doubling time of 3-4 days [5]. We implement that they attempt proliferation 1.2 times per day.
8	Differentiation of $M$ .	A site in $M$ is chosen where a melanocyte progenitor attempts to differentiate into a melanocyte.	$\frac{N^T_{I^d}(t)}{60 \times 24}$	Xanthophores and iridophores promote the differentiation of melanocytes in the long range in different strengths [6, 7]. melanocytes also differentiate independently from other cell types [7].
9	Differentiation of $X^b$ to $X$ .	A cell of type $X^b$ is chosen to attempt differentiation into a cell of type $X$ .	$\frac{N^T_{X^b}(t)}{3 \times 60 \times 24}$	We propose that $X^b$ attempt differentiation once every three days.
10	Transition of $I^d$ to $I^l$ .	A cell of type $I^d$ is chosen to attempt transition to a cell of type $I^l$ .	$\frac{N^T_{I^d}(t)}{60 \times 24}$	We propose that $I^d$ attempt transition once per day.
11	Transition of $I^l$ to $I^d$ .	A cell of type $I^l$ is chosen to attempt transition to a cell of type $I^d$ .	$\frac{N^T_{I^l}(t)}{60 \times 24}$	We propose that $I^l$ attempt transition once per day.
12	Melanocyte death.	A cell of type $M$ is chosen to attempt death.	$\frac{N^T_M(t)}{60 \times 24}$	We propose that melanocytes may die at least once per day.
13	Xanthoblast pulls melanocyte	A cell of type $X^b$ near to cell of type $M$ successfully pulls a cell of type $M$ towards itself.	$\frac{N^T_{X^b}(t)}{100 \times 60 \times 24}$	We propose that this is successful 1/100 times per day.
14	Growth in the horizontal direction.	The domain is chosen to grow in the horizontal direction.	$\frac{0.13}{0.04 \times 60 \times 24}$	Growth in the horizontal direction is 0.13mm per day [8].
15	Growth in the vertical direction.	The domain is chosen to grow in the vertical direction.	$\frac{0.033}{0.04 \times 60 \times 24}$	Growth in the vertical direction is 0.033mm per day [8].

## 1    References

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